SPECIAL SECTION: Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association News & Views (pages 4-5)



Hartford News 5, 2020 News 5, 2



City to Get Free WiFi Network

Saying that "Internet connectivity is not a luxury, it's an essential part of learning, earning, and living today," Mayor Luke Bronin announced that the City of Hartford will soon begin building a citywide wifi network accessible to all residents at no cost. The proposed network will have outdoor wireless access points across the city, providing a minimum of Long-Term Evolution (LTE) standard speed at all times. The majority of residents are expected to be able to access even higher speeds.

The project will be implemented in phases, starting with pilot programs in the Northeast and Frog Hollow neighborhoods. These programs are expected to be in place by the end of 2020. The WiFi network will then be extended throughout the rest of the city.

The total cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$3.8 million. The Dalio Foundation and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving have committed to \$1.5 million each, and the city will fund the balance of the project as well as recurring costs of approximately \$100,000 per year for the LTE connection, making use of its existing contracts for wireless services.

"This project is about bridging the digital divide, fighting for educational equity, and expanding economic opportunity in every Hartford neighborhood," said Luke Bronin. "We believe that every Hartford resident and every Hartford business deserves a good quality internet connection. We're going to make that happen through this public-private partnership, and I am incredibly grateful to Dalio Education and Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for sharing our vision and making this tremendous investment in our community."

Taste of the Caribbean Goes Virtual Saturday!



While the highly popular Taste of the Caribbean and Jerk Festival has been canceled this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, you can still get a "Taste Of The Taste" by viewing an online virtual festival starting at 7 pm this Saturday, August 1. The virtual festival will be a trip down memory lane



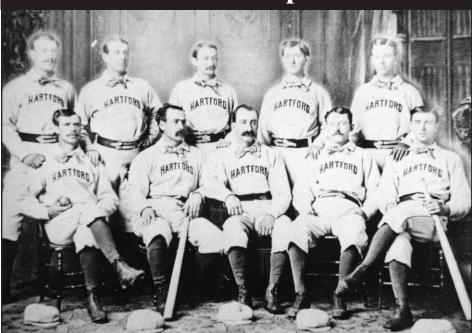
Hartford's Newest Monument Created Beside One of its Oldest

In a matter of just a few days, 16 local artists and their supporters created this massive "Black Lives Matter" mural on Trinity Street in Downtown Hartford, just south of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Arch (built in 1885). The mural was officially unveiled Sunday afternoon. Each artist painted in a letter, filled with images of the Black experience in America and the struggle against racism. The 16 artists were: LeShawn Robinson (B), Jhiyear Thompson (L), Arieanna Colon (A), Evelyn Whitney (C), Linda Robinson (K), Candace Donaldson (L), Jasleni Brito (I), Che LaMora (V), Latoya Delaire (E), Natalie Langlaise (S), Kayla Farrell (M), Jason

Farquharson (A), Andre Rochester (T), Anne Gogh (T), Sacha Kelly (E) and Fiyabomb (R). Farquharson is shown at right working on his piece Saturday morning. All but one of the artists were born and raised in Hartford. Support for the effort was provided by the City of Hartford and Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. (Hart photos)



Hartford...Once Upon a Time



Since the Yard Goats aren't playing this year, we thought we'd show you this photo of the 1876 Hartford Dark Blues, one of the eight original teams in the National Baseball League. The team played its home games on a field near Wyllys Street and Mark Twain was one its biggest fans. Morgan G. Bulkeley, owner of the Hartford Dark Blues, was also the first president of the National League. The team left Hartford and moved to Brooklyn, New York for the 1877 season to become the Brooklyn Hartfords. (Photo courtesy of the Hartford Public Library's Hartford Collection)

NEWS BRIEFS

North End Clean-up Saturday

The Blue Hills Civic Association (BHCA), in partnership with several other North Hartford community organizations, will launch an anti-litter campaign this Saturday, August 1, with a community clean-up. Registration for the clean-up will start at 8:30 am on the ground of John C. Clark School, corner of Clark Street and Nelson Street. The clean-up itself will start at the coner of Barbour Street and Judson Street at 9 am. Refreshments will be served to registered volunteers at 11 am back at Clark School. To register in advance, call (860) 560-7360, ext. 300. Those who register will get a free T-shirt, refreshments, a mask and gloves. All participants must wear masks. Cleaning tools and supplies will be provided. All participants must wear masks. The overall anti-litter campaign will focus on encouraging residents to keep their properties clean of litter and to press the City of Hartford to enforce current anti-littering ordi-

Census Assistance Event Friday

If you have questions or need help completing your 2020 Census questionnaire, please attend a special census assistance event this Friday, July 31, from 3:30pm - 6:30pm, at Heaven Boutique and Spa, 701 Albany Avenue, Hartford. U.S. Census response representatives will be on hand with secure IPads to help you complete your questionnaire and ensure that all city residents are counted.

Upper Albany Street Traffic Changes

As of this past Monday, two major traffic changes were made in the Upper Albany neighborhood. MAGNOLIA STREET has changed to one-way heading north from Homestead Avenue to Albany Avenue. There will be no directional changes on Magnolia Street north of Albany Avenue. IRVING STREET, north and south of Albany Avenue, will change directions to flow away from Albany Avenue. North of Albany Avenue, Irving Street will become a one-way heading north toward Mather Street. South of Albany Avenue, Irving Street will become a one-way heading south toward Homestead Avenue. Instructions regarding on-street parking changes will be posted along all impacted streets. For further informa-

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Welcome to "Shelbourneville"

Deep in the heart of (reduced) taxes, it's a wonderful life for these capital investors

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

Remember that scene in Frank Capra's perennial 1946 Christmas movie? It's the one where a panic-stricken "George Bailey" runs through his beloved hometown of Bedford Falls, only to find that it's now called "Pottersville" after the greedy, devious old coot who bought up everything and turned that nice, friendly little town into a place of vice, dark despair, and poverty. Fortunately for George and the people of Bedford Falls, it turned out to be merely a fantasy of what life would have been like if he'd never been born; a happy ending.

In the game of Downtown Hartford Monopoly, the deeds to the coveted green and blue properties are firmly in the hands of Shelbourne Global Solutions, a New York realty company that's spent hundreds of millions of dollars swallowing up pieces of the city for six years now an extended shopping trip that shows no signs of slowing down. Starting with the "Stilts" building and moving on to the Gold Building, 100 Pearl Street, 330 Main Street (at the corner of Charter Oak Avenue), most of the south side of Pratt Street, and a parking lot on Allyn Street, their portfolio is impressive. But being savvy shoppers, they're always looking for a bargain and they've found one here at Hartford's going-out-ofbusiness sale. To be more specific, they were shocked—shocked!—at the city's property tax assessments on some of their purchases, and took the haggling route. Kind of like telling a shop owner "That's too expensive" and heading for the door, only to hear "Wait! Okay, okay. I can give it to you for..." It worked quite well: certain assessments were slashed by 50 percent or more.

Now picture that happening with my—and your—city property tax assessments. I think the tax bill on my 25 year-old car is too high, so I go to City Hall and tell the Assessor's Office that they need to give me a better deal or I'll move to another town. Bye-bye! How about a Hartford homeowner who's struggling to afford the annual taxes? They want a 50 percent markdown on the assessment of their 75-year-old modest house. That's not going to happen. Now let's say that homeowner is 4 years in arrears on those taxes. What happens next? Why, the city

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Too Many Humans Walk on Mother Earth

SATIRE BY BILL KATZ

Scientists have evidence that a small, insignificant tribe of primates found south of the Congo River in the Democratic Republic of Congo were once first in line to ascend the evolutionary trail. But God made a historic mistake after being lobbied by Republican interests, thus pushing the Bonobos out of the way while clearing a path to send man up the trail instead.

This is the God's honest truth. The Banobos are a peaceful, maternal-dominated tribe of primates. When their males get fussy and aggressive, the females simply deprive them of food and sex. The accumulative effect has been to calm down the males. Unfortunately, man has never understood these maternal admonishments from their tribe as he slobbers away in constant warfare and avarice.

My Modest Proposals offer three options to save Mother Earth. The first and best option is to rid earth of all humans. This event is likely to occur naturally given man's predilection to misuse natural resources. His desire to pollute, exploit resources is so acute that he elected a president bound and determined to eviscerate the Environmental Protection Agency in pursuit of profits at all costs and destroy earth in the process. Some Americans appointed Donald Trump to carry out this mandate.

Pollution has substantially declined as a result of the world pandemic and the need of its population to shelter in place. This temporary cleansing of the earth could become permanent without man.

If the first option is not achievable, the second option is to reduce the population of mankind to 100 million through sterilization. And the third option, if the second one remains elusive, is to rid all human males from the earth with the exception of me and 100,000 females.

And that's the truth, Ruth.

News Briefs Continued from page 1

tion, email Kimberli Owens at kimberli.owens@ct.gov or call (860)263-8533.

Youth Baseball Clinics at Hyland Park

The City of Hartford Recreation Department will hold a series of youth baseball clinics through the month of August at Hyland Park, located at the corner of New Britain Avenue and Fairfield Avenue in Hartford's Behind the Rocks neighborhood. The clinics will be held from 4-8 pm, Monday through Friday, and from 10 am - 2 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Each day will focus on a different age group to provide the most suitable instruction: Mondays, ages 13-16; Tuesdays, ages 6-7; Wednesdays, ages 8-10; Thursdays, age 6-7 and 13-16; Fridays, ages 11-12; Saturday, ages 13-16 from 10am-12pm and ages 8-10 from 12pm-2pm; and Sundays, ages 6-7 from 10am-12pm and ages 13-16 from 12pm-2pm. Clinics are free to Hartford youths.

Keney Park Karaoke Tuesdays

The Friends of Keney Park will host Karaoke Nights at the Keney Park Pond House, 383 Edgewood Street, Hartford from 5-8 pm on Tuesday, August 4, and Tuesday, August 11. Please bring your own chairs, picnic baskets welcome. The karaoke series at Keney Park is sponsored by the Betty Knox Foundation.

Sunset Sounds Series Starts Aug. 6

Connecticut Landmarks' Sunset Sounds Concert Series return this year with three live performances in August on the grounds of the Amos Bull House, 59 South Prospect Street (behind the Butler-McCook House) in Downtown Hartford. First up is Hartford's own Orice Jenkins and his Millenial Soul. Next up is Jocelyn Pleasant & The Lost Tribe on Thursday, August 12, followed by Ed Fast & Congabop on Thursday, August 20. All concerts run from 6-8 pm and are free, but pre-registration is required; please go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunset-sounds-concert-series-tickets-113924918498. Or, watch the concerts from the comfort of your own home on Facebook Live at https://www.facebook.com/but-

Politically Speaking A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State BY MIKE MCGARRY

Hartford Blooms Heritage Tours Friday, Saturday & Sunday, September 11-13

Despite all, Hartford Blooms is planning to host its annual Heritage tours in September. Things could change based on the COVID-19 situation, of course, but right now we're planning on having morning and afternoon tours on Friday, September 11, Saturday, September 12, and Sunday, September 13. There will be a lunch period and lecture between the morning and afternoon tours on all three days.

All current CDC recommendations will be followed to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

There are three options for all tours: ride on a bus; follow along in your car; or watch a "virtual tour" on the internet, filmed by a local Hartford videographer.

Morning Tour

The morning tour will run from 10am - 1 pm and will include Cedar Hill Cemetery; "Mount Trashmore"; Historic House Garden; Coltsville "Window Tour"; Keney Park Experimental Garden.

Afternoon Tour

The afternoon tour will run from 2pm-5pm and will include the Keney Park Experimental Garden; Elizabeth Park Antique Rose Garden; Historic House Garden; KNOX Lands & Greenhouse; "Hidden Garden."

Tickets

Admission to each tour is \$20 and includes a full-color tour booklet, which serves as your ticket.

To pay by check, make check payable and mail to: Hartford Blooms/KofC, 140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105. Please include your name, number of tickets and contact information.

To pay by credit card, please go to our website: www.HartfordBlooms.gdn. If you have any questions, call 860-422-7937.



The Importance of the Census

COVID-19 has ravaged communities across America, disproportionately affecting many communities of color. Now, more than ever, it is important to ensure that our communities receive the federal funding they need. In these challenging times, times when more people in our community are facing hardship, it is imperative we make sure we receive the funding we need to make sure our neighbors, our families, and our friends are receiving the help which they need.

If you are concerned about programs like Head Start, block grants, Medicaid, SNAP and mental health services, then completing the census will help to ensure that our community receives the help it needs.

The Census is only completed once every ten years, and with the information which is collected, the trajectory of representation and the allocation of resources is determined. The census will determine how many representatives will fight for you in the House of Representatives, the funding we will receive for schools, roads clinics, and how hundreds of billions of dollars will be allocated. If you are concerned about programs like Head Start, block grants, Medicaid, SNAP and mental health services, then completing the census will help to ensure that our community receives the help it needs.

Completing the census may not seem like something which is important however, every person counts, and every person can help us to have a chance to empower future generations and help our community to flourish.

To check out more information about the Census and how it can help us, check out this link below: https://2020census.gov/en/census-data.html.

If you have any general inquires about the census, you can call 311 and get more information.

Councilwoman Shirley Surgeon Email: Shirley.Surgeon@hartford.gov Phone#: (860) 757-9569 or (860) 757-9577

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Congratulations on publishing your book! For just a split second, I envision a scenario where the Book Fairy has taken my manuscript and has gotten it published on my behalf. That brief moment is followed by a groan and the realization, expectation, that I will receive several more congrats, twenty-four more reminders that I haven't done squat with my book! These "reply all" emails always invoke an immediate, involuntary vocal response from me. It's time we employed a little etiquette when it comes to email.

- 11 *Thursday works for me!* It is altogether possible that I am waiting for a response from someone about something. All too often, I open the email to find a name that I do not recognize. I ask aloud, "Why do I care? I don't even know you!"
- 18 *Thanks for the info!* "What info? I checked, and have sent you NOTHING!"
- 19 I prefer weekday evenings. "So what? Who cares?"
- 12 Thanks for all of this Susan! I am NOT Susan!
- 24 Thank you Robin and Michelle for making this happen! OMG! Denise, its Denise!
- 33 *I approve!* "I do NOT approve of your APPROVAL, and I am not keeping count, so..."
- 38 Let's not forget the all too common, *I will attend!* "What, where and when, and frankly, Scarlett, I don't ...!"

Count 'em! That's potentially 180 email responses that really mean nothing to me personally, that I have to spend my precious time opening, scanning and deleting.

Below is a simple tutorial that we can all benefit from.

- Lesson I: There may be situations where a small cohort of 10-12 people, or less, will possibly need to know who else is included on the email as well as who can and cannot make a meeting, otherwise the sender should use blind copy, Bcc.
- Lesson II: When you employ Bcc, the recipient can only reply to the sender, the only person tasked with keeping a tally on who's attending and who is not.
- Lesson III: If you are on an email to 20 or more people, reply only to
 the sender. Most of the people listed don't need to know your status,
 and some might not even know who you are, or care one way or the
 other
- Lesson IV: The sender should refrain from sharing everyone's email with everybody.

Applying these four simple lessons will go a long way in reducing the amount of aggravation and time we all have to spend on emails.

Be sure to vote, fill out the census, stay healthy and SMILE! We all could use a little levity. I hope this helped! Email and let me know. Just joking

From Our Readers...

Pamela, a faithful longtime reader of the Hartford News, writes "This was taken in May 2019 when I was experiencing homelessness--sleeping on the floor at the Public Safety complex on High Street. After an exhausting day, I would stop into the lobby of the Hartford Hilton on Trumbull Street, where I would try to rest before continuing on to High Street. While there one day, I grabbed Evan, a complete



stranger, and asked him to take this photo of the two of us." Later, Pamela spent some time at a Hartford women's shelter where the HN is delivered weekly, and eagerly anticipated its arrival every Thursday. She's been stably housed for some time now, and still looks forward to reading the paper every week to find out what's going on in the city. If you also enjoy reading the Hartford News, email a photo of yourself with a copy of the paper to hartfordnews@aol.com and tell us what you like about it. We will run them as space permits.



Black Lives Matter Mural Unveiled at Swift Factory

On Thursay, July 23, a new Black Lives Matter mural painted in front of the old Swift Factiry in Hartford's North End was unveiled. The mural depits the struggle of American blacks against systemic racism and its effect in America. Among those depicted in the mural is Hartford's Carl Hardrick, who has work to reduce violence – especially gang violence – in Hartford for over half a century. Shown above is the team behind the mural (clockwise from back, left): Julie Bergeron, Gerina Fullwood, John Massey and Matt Conway. Hartford artist Lindaluz Carrillo also worked on the mural but was unable to attend the unveiling. (Hart photo)

Ideas That GROW!

BY DONNA SWARR

Sometimes, the most amazing things happen when you flow with the spirit. Violette Haldane, Hartford Next Treasurer and founder of Advocacy to Legacy, LLC, is the driving force behind the asset mapping pilot project this summer. Advocacy to Legacy is a nonprofit that teaches residents how to advocate for themselves by focusing on education, health, financial literacy, and home ownership.

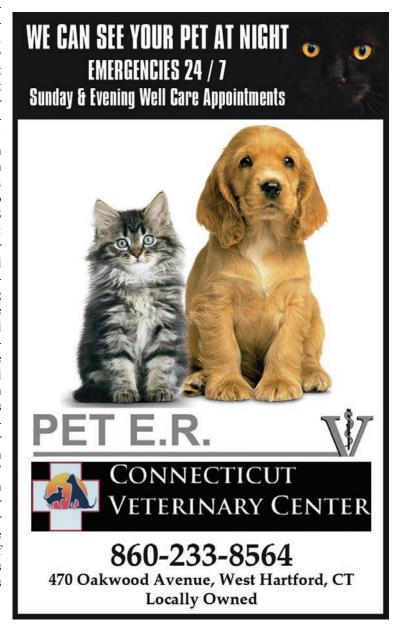
Each summer it supports a project, and this year it will run a pilot mapping the assets in several neighborhoods in Hartford's north end. Sometimes assets, which greatly improve a neighborhood, are not obvious; gardens are an excellent example. How do you promote or incentivize residents to have a garden in their yard? A contest! Hartford Next is collaborating with Knox, Inc., the Hartford Urban Gardeners Society, McCarter & English, and Advocacy to Legacy to support the 7th Annual HUGS Award. There are three categories: Private/Home Gardens Yard or Container Food or Ornamental Ecological Restoration; Public-Business Property including Landscaping or Planters Streetscape or Block Garden Ecological Restoration; and Community-Organization Inside or Outside Neighborhood Efforts Ecological Restoration. The Hartford Urban Gardeners Society (HUGS) Awards recognize Hartford residents, businesses, and organizations for their outstanding landscaping efforts in the city of Hartford. Over the past 7 years, dozens of residents have been recognized and celebrated for their spectacular work in their personal or business gardens. All awardees are forever recognized as members of the Hartford Urban Gardeners Society, affectionally known as

HUGS.

Nominations are due by Monday, September 7th to Maria Burke, Knox, Inc., 75 Laurel St, Hartford, CT 06106. But don't wait that long! Many gardens will be at their peak over the next 3 weeks. The rules are: you can nominate yourself, or someone else, the garden must be located in Hartford; you need to please include a picture or pictures and write a short description as to why you like the garden. Nominations can be sent via mail or email.

You can also find a nomination

form at info@knoxhartford.org. All nominations must include the location of garden (address and owner's name) your contact information (the person nominating) address, phone, and email. A committee of volunteers from throughout the city will select the winners in late September. Since March, many of us have been out walking in our neighborhoods or through our parks. Now's your chance to nominate one of those gardens that you've been admiring!



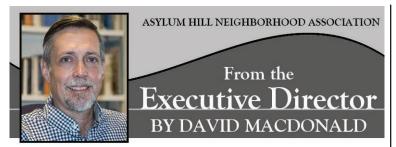
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*AHNA

Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association A Hartford Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

News



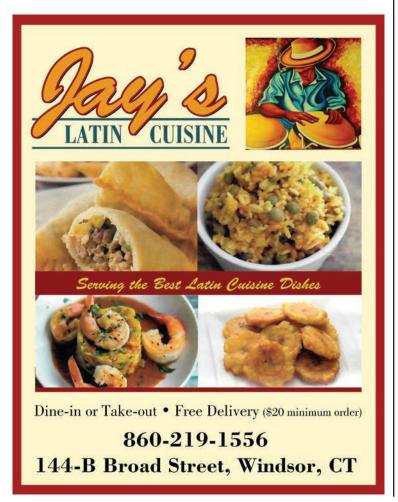


The Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association's mission is to empower and connect residents and stakeholders to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Amidst all this uncertainty with the pandemic, however, our primary concern continues to be the health of our residents. This means that our August 3rd general meeting will be again via video/teleconference. If you receive our newsletter via email then you will receive an email with the link and phone numbers to join our virtual General Meeting. The agenda will include two important items; 1) a presentation and vote about the proposed purchase and renovation of 241 Sigourney Street; 2) an update from NINA on their home ownership project at 80-82 Hawthorn Street and a vote on their request for a letter of support.

Also on the agenda will be an update from Knox about their programs and partnerships in the community. If someone needs to receive information about how to join our meeting on August 3rd at 6:15pm, please email me at exdir@asylumhill.org to join our email list.

The Stay at Home order and subsequent loss of employment has hit our neighborhood and city residents very hard. There is great need in our community. Two of our churches are providing take home meals. Grace Lutheran provides take home meals every Friday starting at 4:30pm. The Asylum Hill Congregational Church provided a take home fish fry dinner on July 26th. Our food pantries and churches have been very active providing food to those in need and we thank them for their assistance. We again ask for volunteers to help stock the Mini-Pantry at 202 Laurel Street. This Mini-Pantry is being stocked by our former Board member Carol Padberg and she reports that the need is so great it is difficult to keep this mini-pantry fully stocked. We are putting out the call for anyone who can help to help stock this mini-Pantry for our neighbors. You can simply drive up to the pantry and place your donations of canned goods for those in need. Thank you in advance for your help.

Hartford is home to many committed community leaders, passionate non-profits, and generous business partners. There are many people in Hartford who don't have access to the federal relief programs, so the people of Hartford have stepped up to help those in need. We are certain that when our residents come together to address challenges, even a pandemic, we all benefit. We know we will work together to meet this crisis with compassion, confidence and creativity. Above all, stay safe and help care for others whenever and wherever you can.



EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL

A Solitary Garden at Stowe

It's a very small garden, but a very substantial work of art. It is based on a memoir published last year and selected for this year's Stowe Prize. The work of art was designed by Jackie Sumell. The memoir is titled Solitary. It is the life of Albert Woodfox and it is especially important now that we as a society are looking at racism and criminal justice more closely.

In the memoir Woodfox tells first the story of all the crimes he did commit that put him into prison, and then the one he did not commit that resulted in his four decades spent in solitary confinement.

He also tells of his transformation and self-education while in prison that allowed and caused him to be one of the Angola Three, and the last to be released. They were three Black Panther members in Angola who were falsely convicted of killing a guard and sentenced to life in solitary back in 1972.

Jackie Sumell, began creating Solitary Gardens after she received a letter in 2006 from Herman Wallace, another of the Angola



Three who was trying unsuccessfully to grow plants in his cell.

The first of these gardens were planted in New Orleans, and the most recent is here at the Stowe

The effect of the garden, the book and the Stowe Prize is to call attention to the violence of racism in general and the criminal justice and prison system in particular. It's meant to challenge our hearts and minds to move away from the expectation that fear of punishment will transform people and make them better human beings.

Its goal is to find a way to replace that with clear-eyed compassion that can allow individuals to truly transform themselves.

The book tells that story in words that are often painful to hear and a review is available here. The Garden as art, fills in additional impact that mere words cannot. The photo here are intend only to encourage you to visit the site and not as a substitute. It is available from dawn to dusk at the Center near the Stowe House until October 10th. The public is welcomed.

Remembering Jill Barrett

BY BERNIE MICHEL

passed on. While I had not seen her in person for this was the side of Jill that I knew.

a while, my first thought was that this seemed sudden. When I did see her images on Facebook, she and David both seemed to be doing well. At the wake last Saturday, David confirmed that it was very sudden, five weeks from diagnosis to passing.

Iill was one of those people we come to count on to get things done. Committed to Hartford and its neighborhoods, thoughtful and knowledgeable about the issues and solutions. She was always soft spoken, though her words carried weight.

My connection to her in Asylum Hill was mostly at Fitzgerald and Halliday where she worked on several streetscape projects, as well as the I-84 Project and its many meetings.

She was also the staff for Farmington Avenue Alliance that helped to connect Asylum Hill and the West End in the effort to revitalize this important thoroughfare. More than once, I called her looking for information about some property on the avenue, or why things were the way they were. She generally had the information or insight I was

Word came late last week that Jill Barrett had seeking on the spot and generously shared it. So

Her obituary appeared in the Hartford Courant on July 23rd. Not surprisingly, from that I learned a few things about her that I didn't know.

After getting a Masters Degree in Community Organizing from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, she began work at Asylum Hill Inc., as one of the early organizers. By the time I arrived in Asylum Hill she had left that organization and it was

fading just as AHNA was coming into existence.

I also learned of her love of rowing on the Connecticut River and her connection with Riverfront Recapture, but also that she was a world traveler and likely as a result was dedicated to immigrant and refugee resettlement with Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS). Both of these organizations have been recommended to receive donations in her memory. Both have in common a mission to make this world a better place for its inhabitants. For me, that is her legacy.



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VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

BLM on Farmington at Woodland

friends and members of Immanuel Congregational Church have been spending an hour on the corner of their property at Farmington Avenue and Woodland

Street showing their support for the Black Lives Matter Movement.

In truly exemplary fashion, all have worn masks and for the most part, maintained the suggested six feet of separation. Also for the most part, they have gotten honks of solidarity from the passing traffic, a reminder that while there is

still much work to do, it seems that there are many willing to take up that work.

BLACK LIVES

Many of those who have shown up have been part of Immanuel's Social Justice effort for many years, and one could say they have made it their life's work. Former Hartford City Council member Jim Boucher was hardly recognizable in baseball cap, sunglasses and facemask until he spoke. Jim is a longtime member of ICC and a tireless proponent of social justice in many forms. Along with Elaine Roberts, next to him in the photo is Majority Leader Matt Ritter, also a dedicated champion of justice.

Many of the others present though less well-know are just as committed to bringing about the necessary change. As they have been for years.

In fact, all of Asylum Hill has been committed to this idea from it's founding with the creation of the School

For seven consecutive Monday afternoons, dozens of for the Deaf, through Stowe and Twain right up to the present with their namesake organizations, ICC, Hartbeat Ensemble, and many others.

What seems different this time is an awakening, an

effort to be "woke", a commitment to understand the history of racism and how central it is to our existence in every aspect of our lives, and then a commitment to root it out and establish real justice.

One part of that effort has been led by Hartbeat

Ensemble's Geoffrey Simmons Jr. who began creating an "affinity space for Greater Hartford-area BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color)." A few weeks later he helped create a corresponding Zoom space for self identified white people called "Breaking White Silence" The third of this series just concluded last week. They have been 90 minutes each where those of us who have experienced life as white can explore what it's been like for those who have not. It's been an education, and a process to understand the vastness and depth of the problem and that none of us are truly free until all of us are free.

For anyone wishing to join the "Breaking White Silence" group email rhoda.cerritelli@hartbeatensem-

For those wanting more information on the BIPOC group email BIPOC@hartbeatensemble.org



The Connecticut House of Representatives held a socially distanced special session to fight for legislation that will make Connecticut an even better to live, work and raise a family. We passed four incredibly important bills - police accountability, absentee ballot reform, telehealth and capping the cost of insulin.

Police Accountability

In response to the public call for substantive police reform, the historic reform package will force law enforcement to confront and deal with systemic racism and bias in policing. The legislation creates a new inspector general to investigate the use of deadly force, gives more authority to civilian review boards, bans chokeholds, requires dashboard cameras in patrol vehicles, and restricts the use of military equipment.

Mail-In Ballots

You should not have to risk your health to exercise your right to vote. You will have a safe/COVID-free alternative - voting by absentee ballot. This November, you will be able to use the concerns over COVID as a valid reason to apply for an absentee ballot.

Telehealth

The COVID crisis yielded a flood of telehealth visits. We approved reforms to ensure your telehealth visits will be covered by state-regulated insurance. It is important that you maintain the ability to consult with a medical professional without sitting in a crowded waiting room.

Insulin Prices

Insulin prices will be capped...and it's about time. According to the American Diabetes Association, the average price of insulin nearly tripled between 2002 and 2013. The price of insulin is artificially high...driven by greed and the lust for profit. This will ensure insulin will be affordable in CT.

Please contact me at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, or by phone at (860) 240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.

NINA and Fresh Start Pallet Products

The sub-title to this should be "a partnership made in Asylum Hill", in fact more specifically "at Veeder Place."

The Northside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (NINA) has been dedicated to creating homeownership opportunities in the neighborhood since 2004, and their first, and by some measure, most ambitious project was moving the "Victorian Lady" from it's original home surrounded by an Aetna parking lot on Sigourney Street to it's current home at 21 Ashley St. Since that time, they have added more than 2-dozen homeownership opportunities to Asylum Hill and since 2006, they have been a fixture at Veeder Place.

Fresh Start Pallet Products began it's life in the back yard of Grace Lutheran Church and after a "brief" stay in the basement of Trinity Episcopal Church, were able to find their current home at Veeder place as well.

So when Fresh Start began to expand their work and training opportunities to include custom contract manufacturing, and NINA found their former volunteer suppliers of custom woodwork dwindling, a perfect partnership opportunity arose.

The real test came early on as

work on 86 Hawthorn began. The Neo-Gothic design of these town homes was intended to reflect the style of 140 Hawthorn set back behind the apartment buildings on Hawthorn and Forest Streets. It was the home that Mark Twain first occupied while his home on Farmington Ave was being built. The twin gables design on the front of 84-86 Hawthorn was taken from a similar home in Ontario Canada.

In order to make it, and much of the rest of the trim, they would need a new piece of equipment. They would also need a master computer draftsman to make the design exactly fit the gables as they had been constructed.

Fresh Start is fortunate to have some very talented and generous board members, and in this case it was Mark Summers who stepped up and produced the design and specified the equipment needed to produce it. Today the material has all been made and delivered.

So if you drive down Hawthorn St you'll see the results of this most recent partnership.

However that's not the only contract work that Fresh Start is involved in. Much of the interior woodwork and even some of the lighting at Parkville Market is Fresh Start produced, and all the while their employees become more and more experienced.

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WheelerClinic.org/COVID-19

6 The Hartford News July 30 – August 5, 2020

City Council Virtual Public Comment & Meeting Aug. 10

On Monday, August 10th, the Hartford Court of Common Council will hold a virtual public comment and City Council meeting via the WebEx platform. These meetings will be broadcasted and recorded by Hartford Public Access Television. The public comment session will start at 6 pm and the council meeting will start at 7 pm.

Both can be viewed at Hartford

Public Access Television, www.hpatv.org, HPA TV Facebook Page, or channel 96 for Comcast/Xfinity customers

To sign up to speak, please reach out to David Grant (860) 757-9738, david.grant@hartford.gov. The deadline to register is 5:30 pm, Monday, August 10th. Once signed up, participants will be given a conference number and are asked to

call in by 5:40pm to receive further instructions. Public Comment will begin promptly at 6:00pm with the City Council meeting taking place shortly after.

READ US ONLINE!

The Hartford News is now available online! Go to HartfordPublications.com and click on current edition – or find us on Facebook under "Hartford News-Southside Media." New editions are posted Wednesday evening.

Sonia Plumb Dance Launches Crowdfunding Campaign for Scholarships for City Youths

The Sonia Plumb School of Dance is working to provide minority youth with after school dance programs to build a stronger community through dance.

The project's organizers are calling on the community to join this initiative by donating to a crowdfunding campaign or volunteering in the effort. All community donations will be doubled by Sustainable CT's Community Match Fund, which is an innova-

tive funding resource for public, community-led sustainability projects. The dance company is hoping to raise enough money for 23 scholarships.

If the campaign reaches its \$8,000 goal by its fundraising deadline of August 31, the project will receive a matching grant of \$8,000 from Sustainable CT. For project details and to donate, please visit: Patronicity.com/23dancescholarships.

Taste of the Caribbean

Continued from page 1

through 14 years of festival performances by top international musicians and promising local talent.

Go to TasteCT to find out how you can watch the show on YouTube, Instagram, Vimeo and

Facebook. The website also has information on obtaining discounts for the evening from four restaurants: Dunn's River Restaurant, Fire n Spice Vegan Restaurant, Jamske's Caribbean Restaurant and Lion's Den Vegetarian Restaurant.

Lead Custodian Part Time 27.5 Hours Per Week

Ensure that the facilities are kept clean, orderly and in safe conditions. Qualifications: Min 2 yrs related exp. Ability to lift/ carry 50 lbs. Able to operate and use janitorial tools, equipment, and supplies. The job duties require an employee to bend, reach, and stand for extended periods of time. Valid driver's license and ability to drive the agency vehicles according to agency policy.

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See our website for a full job description— handsonhartford.org. Send letter of interest & resume to:

Pamela Fitzgerald, Director of Finance and Administration Hands On Hartford, 55 Bartholomew Ave, Hartford CT 06106.

Email pfitzgerald@handsonhartford.org

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VIEW FROM THE PARKS

Hartford's Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

30-Jul	Forge City Works Farmers' Market		11 AM - 2 PM
	539 Broad St Basketball Clinics * NEW*	41	2:30 PM - 3 PM
30-Jul	Goodwin Park - BB courts	14	30 FW - 3 FW
30-Jul	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 11-12 *NEW*		4 PM - 8 PM
	Hyland Park ZUMBA *NEW*	_	0.00 011
30-Jul	Goodwin Park - up near the tennis courts/golf course entrance		6:00 PM
31-Jul	Basketball Clinics * NEW*		9 AM - Noon
Jioui	Willie Ware	-	
31-Jul	Old State House Farmers' Market 800 Main St.	1	10 AM - 2 PM.
31-Jul	Summer Concert Series:		12 - 1 PM
งเจนเ	Connecticut's Old State House	_	1500 Sept. 11 1500 Sept. 12 15
31-Jul	Frog Hollow / KNOX Farmers' Market 75 Laurel St		3 PM - 6 PM
31-Jul	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages11-12 *NEW*		4 PM - 8 PM
	Hyland Park		
1-Aug	Farmers' Market at the Regional Market		6 AM - 9 AM
70#11#1777	101 Reserve Road Yoga in the Park	+	10:00 AM
1-Aug	Pope Park		
1-Aug	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages13-16 *NEW*		10 AM - Noon
	Hyland Park "Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 8-10 *NEW*		Noon - 2 PM
1-Aug	Hyland Park		TOOL - Z CM
2-Aug	Yoga in the Park		10:00 AM
2-Aug	Colt Park	+	IO AM Mass
	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 6-7 *NEW* Hyland Park		10 AM - Noon
2-Aug	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 12-16 *NEW*		Noon - 2 PM
ZHug	Hyland Park	_	
3-Aug	Basketball Clinics * NEW* Willie Ware		9 AM - Noon
	Park Street Farmers' Market		9:30 AM - 1 PM
3-Aug	Corner of Park and Washington		
3-Aug	Frog Hollow / KNOX Farmers' Market 75 Laurel St		3 PM - 6 PM
3-Aug	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 13-16 * NEW*		4 PM - 8 PM
3-Mug	Hyland Park		
3-Aug	Yoga in the Park Bushnell Park		5:30 PM
4-Aug	Basketball Clinics * NEW*		12:30 PM - 3 P
4-Aug	Goodwin Park - BB courts		Deloves de auc
4-Aug	ZUMBA *NEW* Goodwin Park - up near the tennis courts/golf course entrance		9 AM - 10 AM
4-Aug	Old State House Farmers' Market		10 AM - 2 PM
4-Aug	800 Main St		
4-Aug	West End Farmers' Market, 385 Farmington Ave		4 PM - 7 PM
4-Aug	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 6-7 * NEW*		4 PM - 8 PM
· Aug	Hyland Park		
4-Aug	Yoga in the Park Elizabeth Park		5:30 PM
4-Aug	Karaoke In the Park		5:00 PM
- Aug	Keney Park Pond House		0.444
5-Aug	ZUMBA *NEW* Goodwin Park - up near the tennis courts/golf course entrance		9 AM - 10 AM
5-Aug	North End Senior Center Farmer's Market		10 AM - 1 PM
J . Mag	80 Coventry		44 434 11
5-Aug	Online Children's Art Therapy Summer Course Virtual - Charter Oak Cultural Center (go to FB Group for details)		11 AM - Noon
5-Aug	Homestead Farmers' Market		2 PM - 5 PM
J Aug	Chrysalis Center, Inc.		4 844 - 551
5-Aug	"Pop-Up" Baseball Clinics - Ages 8-10 * NEW* Hyland Park		4 PM - 8 PM
5-Aug	Weekly Evening Rose Garden Weeding		6:00 PM
JAug	Elleshall Back		
3-Aug	Elizabeth Park Yoga in the Park		5:30 PM

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Welcome to "Shelbourneville"

Continued from page 2

moves to foreclose on their house. Interestingly enough, there was a similar situation with one of Shelbourne Global's investment partners. Parking czar Alan Lazowski (LAZ) owned the garage at the corner of Main and Talcott Streets, the structure that connects to 960 Main Street with an overhead pedestrian bridge that is one of

be a moneymaker with the advent of the baseball stadium. In a rare show of foresight, city inspectors looked over the property and deemed it to be structurally unsound; no sale. But there was a happy ending for Lazowski. After hooking up with Global, he struck a deal to sell that property to them, and they in turn paid the back taxes to the city. The city was so grateful that they lowered the assessment on

development incentives. Several things in that report stood out for me, but this one left the biggest impression: "Cities should target incentives based on core principles of inclusive economic development...Invest in people and skills by incorporating workers' skill development as a priority for economic development and employers

so that improving human capacities results in meaningful work and wages." So will Shelbourne's multiple projects—including both construction/renovation jobs, and staffing at those properties—translate to good-wage jobs for Hartford residents? How about the hundreds of new apartments Shelbourne plans to bring to Downtown? All

market rate? Most likely. And what about rents for the proposed retail spaces coming to Pratt Street? When you swim with the sharks, there's a good chance you'll be eaten alive. Is it okay for one entity to control so much of the city's prime real estate? In sum, the rich get richer and the poor get bupkes, here in Shelbourneville.



the city's iconic pieces of architecture and a part of Hartford history. Lazowski did not pay his property taxes on that building for several years, and was in arrears to the city for more than \$3 million. About 4-5 years ago, he proposed to sell the garage to the city in exchange for tax relief, suggesting that it would

the garage. The plan now is to tear that garage down and...(drum roll)...build a new garage! Want to guess who'll have the parking contract for that?

A couple of years ago, the Brookings Institute issued a report on the local value of economic



Real Art Ways Summer Youth Programs

Real Art Ways (RAW) recently kicked off its 30th year of summer programs for youth with a parade and performance by The Hartford Hot Several (shown above with RAW Executive Director Will Wilkins, right). Neighborhood kids work on two online art activities each week. Art kits with supplies are prepared by Real Art Ways staff and student apprentices, and picked up by students on Mondays. To sign up a child, email us at parkart@realartways.org

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1 Vernon Ave, Rockville, behind Rockville Hospital.

Early Bird Starts at 12:15 pm; Regular Bingo Starts at 1 pm

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FUNERALS aren't cheap - but planning for one is. FREE funeral planning guide. Call Derrick Shirley, 860-371-8969.

Housing Service-Help

For Owners and all tenants! If you are an owner and have an apartment, house, room or rental - or if you are a tenant looking for an apartment, house, room or rental or a roomate, call me. I/we manage rentals, no cost to owners. Owners, call for contractor repairs - some financing. Also call for other housing services. I-ME-Leasing (CT). 860-231-1111.

REAL ESTATE

Apartments for Rent

Large studio & 1-BR. All include heat and hot water, parking, stove & fridge, washer & dryer in basement. Section 8 welcome. No pets, plenty of closet space. Call Imer at 917-681-5785 or Pablo at 860-983-9444.

2-BR Apt. for Rent

For Rent: 2 bedroom unit, 3rd floors, completely renovated ,with new stove, new frig, new beautiful bathroom new wood floors throughout parking for 1 car, quiet street, Mortson Street, on busline and close to shopping. Section 8 welcome. Available A.S.A.P. \$1000.00. Please call 646-286-6442.

Hartford South End

1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Appliances included. Parking. Call John 860-805-

Room for Rent

Furnished room with utilities and kitchen privileges. \$130 weekly. 860 560-8200.

Hartford, North End

3 bedrooms, 44 Edgewood St. Large rooms. Stove, fridge, washer/dryer hookups in kitchen. Very nice condition. Cold flat. \$1,100 monthly plus one month security deposit. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-983-5939.

Apartments for Rent

Efficiency, 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms avaialable. Walking distance to shopping, on bus line, off-street parking. Small pets welcome. Section 8 Welcome. Rates Starting at: Studio- \$615; 1BR- \$700; 2BR- \$800; 3BR- \$900; 4BR-\$1000. Call 860-549-3000.

295-297 Garden St. Hartford

Large well maintained 3 bedroom apartments, 1st & 2nd floor, quiet building. Cold flat \$900 monthly. 1 month security 1 month rent. Section 8 Welcome. Call 860-882-3650.

Apartment for Rent

1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments on Arnold Street and Deerfield Avenue. Appliances included cold flat. Section 8 welcome. Affordable rents. Call 860-752-9060.

Room For Rent

Rooms for rent in Hartford's West End. Utilities included. \$140 weekly. Security deposit. Call 860-888-6655.

For Rent

Spacious 3 Bedroom apartments on the 2nd floor, West End. Cold Flat. 1 month security and 1 month rent. Available NOW. Section 8 welcome. Call 860-888-6655.

22 Evergreen Avenue, Hartford

This is a spacious 1-bedroom unit with hardwood floors. This rents for \$800 and includes heat and hot water. Close proximity to shopping centers, restaurants and on bus line. On-site laundry and street parking. Section 8 welcomed. No pets. Contract Christine at 860-985-8258.

22 Evergreen Avenue, Hartford

This is a large 2-bedroom unit with hardwood floors. This rents for \$975 and includes heat and hot water. Close proximity to shopping centers, restaurants and on bus line. On-site laundry and street parking. Section 8 welcomed. No pets. Contract Christine at 860-985-

Rooms for Rent East Hartford

Nice, clean rooms for rent, 311 Tolland Street, East Hartford. \$160/week, includes all utilities. Call Robert, 860-308-5455.

For Rent

107-F Hillcrest Avenue, Spacious 1Bedrooms \$1025 includes heat, hot water, & cooking gas. On-site laundry & off-street parking. Section 8 Welcome. Call 860-985-8258.

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Church Space for Rent

Existing church building, highly visible and on the bus line. The space provides a sanctuary, pastor's office, administrative office, plenty of classroom/ministry space, multiple bathrooms and off-street parking. This is an excellent space for a growing congregation. For more details call: Bill, 860-608-6998.

LIQUOR PERMIT

Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I,

GJINOVEFA LUARI 61A GRAHAM RD

EAST HARTFORD, CT

06118-2129

Have filed an application placarded 07/22/2020 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at

5 CONSTITUTION PLZ

HARTFORD CT 06103-1822

The business will be owned by: P2B DOWNTOWN, LLC

Entertainment will consist of: No Live Entertainment

Objections must be filed by: 09-02-2020

GJINOVEFA LUARI

The Hartford News July 30 - August 5, 2020





El Informativo Latino

La mayoría de los estudiantes y maestros esperan regresar a clases en otoño

decisión que se tome, dijo Cardona.

El gobernador de Connecticut, Ned Lamont, dijo que después de escuchar a 231 distritos escolares, la mayoría de los estudiantes y maestros esperan regresar al aula este otoño. Lamont dijo que el 76% de los estudiantes esperan regresar a la escuela en el otoño. El 81% de los maestros esperan instruir en el aula.

Lamont también dijo que el 54% de los estudiantes esperan viajar en el autobús a la escuela. El estado ha recibido un apoyo casi unánime para la cohorte en las escuelas primarias, K-5.

"Cada distrito tiene una forma ligeramente diferente de querer hacer esto", dijo Lamont. El comisionado de Educación, Miguel Cardona, dijo que un equipo de 10 personas está clasificando los planes presentados por cada distrito escolar el viernes pasado.

Cardona enfatizó que los planes son fluidos y que todo puede cambiar dependiendo de la situación de COVID-19 en el estado. La salud y la seguridad de los estudiantes y maestros superarán cualquier

La superintendente de las Escuelas de New London, Cynthia Ritchie, dijo que tienen un plan fluido de regreso a la escuela. El distrito escolar ha ideado un plan flexible

codificado por colores. Su plan verde implementaria clases totalmente en persona, el plan amarillo permitiría un 50% de capacidad en un formato híbrido, y el plan rojo significaría cursos completamente

en línea.

"La gente quiere una buena educación para sus estudiantes, pero todos quieren que todos estén seguros y compartimos esos objetivos", dijo Ritchie.

El distrito escolar planea grabar videos para mostrar a los padres cómo será un día en la vida de sus hijos para ayudar a aliviar los temores y acostumbrarse a la nueva forma de enseñar.

Superintendente de las Escuelas de New Canaan El Dr. Bryan Luizzi dijo que su distrito escolar planea

reunir a estudiantes de primaria y secundaria, diciendo que sería muy dificil reunir a las escuelas secundarias. Dijo que los estudiantes generalmente se sienten cómodos usando máscaras durante un período prolongado de tiempo, como se ve en sus programas de verano.

Luizzi dijo que el distrito escolar planea hacer una transición del trabajo colaborativo para ser socialmente distante. Planean hacer esto vaciando los muebles de las aulas y considerando la instrucción ocasional al aire libre. Los funcionarios escolares están trabajando para asegurarse de que la tecnología sea lo suficientemente robusta para estos

También hay planes en marcha para traer a los maestros de regreso temprano para someterse a una capacitación de cinco días.

El porcentaje de pruebas COVID-19 que dieron positivo sigue siendo inferior al uno por ciento. Ha habido una tasa de positividad promedio de 0.06% desde el

Hay 12 hospitalizaciones menos, lo que eleva el total a 59 en Connecticut. 207 personas adicionales han dado positivo por coronavirus, con un total de casos de 48,983. Se han reportado cinco muertes más. Ha habido 31,960 pruebas realizadas desde el viernes.

By Iris Rodriguez

lugares donde hacerte la prueba en ct.gov/coronavirus





HARTFORD SPORTS



Athletic Rallies for 3-2 Win

Hartford Athletic notched its third win of the season with a comeback win over Philadelphia Union II at Dillon Stadium Saturday night. Philadelphia took an early 2-0 lead in the game, but Athletic came back with three goals behind the play of Captain Danny Barrera (above, dark jersey), who assisted on two goals. Below is defender Sam Strong (center) brushing past a Philadelphia player as Athletic's Arthur Rogers (left) hurries in to assist. Hartford's record now stands at 3-0 and their next game is against Loudoun United at Dillon Stadium at 7 pm Sunday night, August 2. (Hart photos)

